

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 HEW-08 SCSE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 SCA-01 SWF-02 EB-11

IGA-02 IO-14 PC-10 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SR-02 ORM-03 AGR-20

DRC-01 /175 W

----- 005956

O R 250149Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8108

INFO JCS

DIA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

COMUSARSO IMMEDIATE

COMUSAFSO IMMEDIATE

COMSUNAVSO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 4026

STATE PASS AID/PHA/FDRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, HO

SUBJECT: HURRICANE FIFI - SITREP 12

REF: SITREP 11

1. ON SEPTEMBER 22 COPEN ESTABLISHED AN EMERGENCY SHORTWAVE COMMUNICATIONS NET WHICH WILL BE DIRECTED AND OPERATED BY THE RADIO CLUB OF TEGUCIGALPA ON CERTAIN BANDS.

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ANOTHER BULLETIN REPORTED THAT AID HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM

U.S., MEXICO, CUBA, VENEZUELA, NICARAGUA, COSTA RICA, COLOMBIA, U.K., AND AUSTRALIA. BULLETIN ALSO STATED THAT HONDURAN RED CROSS RECEIVED HELP DIRECTLY FROM THE SALVADORAN RED CROSS.

2. FOUR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR. HOWEVER, ONLY TWO OF FOUR LOCATED IN DISASTER AREAS. VOLUNTEERS IN TEGUCIGALPA WORKING WITH CARITAS TO PREPARE FOOD SHIPMENTS TO NORTH COAST.

3. MINFIN ACOSTA TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT HE WOULD ISSUE CALL TO INTERNATIONAL LENDING AGENCIES TO CONVENE IN HONDURAS TO MAKE ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION. HE ALSO PLANS TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON OCTOBER 1. AT THAT TIME HE WILL PROBABLY DRAW ON GOLD AND PETROLEUM TRANCHES.

4. OTHER NATIONS AS WELL AS PRIVATE SOURCES IN U.S. CONTINUE TO SEND HELP TO HONDURAS. 5,000 BLANKETS AND 2,000 TENTS ARRIVED FROM WEST GERMANY ABOARD A PANAM FLIGHT. NICARAGUAN NATIONAL GUARD SENDING MEDICAL TEAM AND FOUR FIELD KITCHENS. ALSO REPORTS THAT CHILEAN AND ECUADOREAN PLANES ENROUTE. CARGO ABOARD TWO MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD C-130S SHIPPED TO LA CEIBA FOR DISTRIBUTION BY STANDARD FRUIT OFFICIALS. TWO BRITISH CORVETTES ARRIVED IN BAY ISLANDS WITH MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND TEAM OF COMBAT ENGINEERS. BRITISH ALSO ESTABLISHED HEAD-QUARTERS AT LA MESA AIRPORT FOR USE OF THEIR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM AND HELICOPTERS. BRITISH HAVE BROUGHT IN TWO SIOUX HELICOPTERS AND HAVE REQUESTED THIRD. CANADA PLANNING TO SEND TWO CARIBOU AIRCRAFT.

5. MILGP COMMANDER RETURNED LATE AFTERNOON AFTER THREE DAY PERIOD IN SAN PEDRO SULA AND DISASTER ZONE. REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER OF COSTA RICA ARRIVED AND HAD BEEN MET BY CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ. HE STATED THAT US ORGANIZATION FUNCTIONING WELL AND GOODS BEING DELIVERED. HONDURAN AIR FORCE MOVING SUPPLIES FROM STOCKPILE AT LA MESA AIRPORT TO LA CEIBA AND TOCOA, A TOWN LOCATED IN THE AGUAN VALLEY. 24,000 LBS OF SUPPLIES MOVED IN TOCOA BY HONDURAN C-47S FOR DISTRIBUTION TO OUTLYING AREAS.

6 HE REPORTED THAT MAIN RIVERS ARE WITHIN THEIR BANKS, EVEN UNCLASSIFIED

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THOUGH THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEAL OF STANDING WATER. BOATS FERRIED FROM SOUTHCOM TO HONDURAS HAVE BEEN USED TO EVACUATE MORE THAN 400 PEOPLE STRANDED IN FLOODED REGIONS. HELICOPTERS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR RESCUE OPERATIONS. HE ESTIMATES THAT RESCUE OPERATIONS WILL END TOMORROW AND THAT MAJOR EFFORT WILL BE PLACED ON MOVING LARGE AMOUNTS OF FOODSTUFFS TO AREAS IN NEED.

7 U.N. DISASTER COORDINATION OFFICER STANISSIS VISITED COPEN

AND AID AND MADE RECONNAISSANCE OF DISASTER. HE SEES PRIORITIES AS WATER FOOD AND MEDICINES. HE RECEIVED LIST OF NEEDED MEDICINES FROM LOCAL PAHO REP. ALVAREZ TOTALING MEDICINE FOR 50,000 (INCLUDING 10,000 CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS.). LIST INCLUDED BAYGON DDT, AND 1 MILLION HALAZONE TABLETS. LIST HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO UN GENEVA WHICH WILL BEGIN COLLECTION.

8. WORLD FOOD PROGRAM REP. JELNES INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HAS BROUGHT IN 500 TONS OF FOOD AND PLAN TO DIRECT FOOD TO AGUAN IN A FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAM. WILL COORDINATE WITH CARE AND CRS.

9. CRS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT FOLLOWING REFUGEE CAMPS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED:

CHOLOMA	10,000 PERSONS
LA LIMA	5,000 PERSONS
POTRERILLOS	7,000 PERSONS
PROGRESO	18,000 PERSONS
PUERTO CORTES	UNKNOWN
SAN PEDRO SULA	3,000
VILLANUEVA	3,000
COFRADIA (AGUAN)	UNKNOWN

CRS HAS DISTRIBUTED 180,000 LBS. OF FOOD SO FAR AND ESTIMATES 100,000 LBS. NEEDED PER DAY. AT THAT RATE BACKLOG WILL BE EXHAUSTED IN TEN DAYS. CRS/N.Y. HAS ALSO APPORTIONED \$10,000 TO BE USED FOR IMMEDIATE RELIEF EFFORTS. CARITAS OFFICE IN ROME HAS PROVIDED \$80,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF TEN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES AND THE TRANSPORT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

10. CARE HAS THUS FAR DISTRIBUTED 119,409 LBAS OF PL 480 FOODS AND CIVIL DEFENSE BISCUITS WHICH THEY ESTIMATE TO HAVE APPROXIMATE VALUE OF \$100,000. IN ADDITION \$10,000 GRANT MADE BY USG HAS BEEN USED FOR PURCHASE OF BEDDING MATERIALS, UNCLASSIFIED

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KEROSENE STOVES AND LAMPS, PICKS AND SHOVELS. SANCHEZ

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NNN

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